

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Furthermore, in this case, the corporate giant is force-feeding a political tract down the throats of its affiliates. This so-called "documentary" is nothing more than a negative political ad and should be banned, and Sinclair should be fined.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. We also need the Fairness Doctrine reinstated. Thank you.